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7 November 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Administrative Organization and Support of Clandestine Services

REFERENCE: Memorandum to DD/P from A/DCI, 5 October 1956, Subject: "Report of Inspector General's Survey of the Office of the Deputy Director (Support), the Management Staff, and the Office of the General Counsel"

1. This memorandum is for your action. The assistance requested is contained in paragraph 5.

2. In essence the recommendations of the Inspector General arising from inspection of the DD/S components and affecting the Clandestine Services are:

a. That, because it is difficult for one man "to serve two masters", SSA-DD/S be relieved of those command authorities presently being exercised by him for DD/P.

b. That, to assume these command functions as well as to act as an advisory staff officer to DD/P on support matters generally, "there be established on the staff of the DD/P, a position of Administrative Officer of senior grade."

3. We do not take issue with the above recommendations since they appear to represent a viewpoint which is reasonable and workable. We are, however, somewhat surprised at the nature of the recommendations, since, on the basis of the organizational philosophy prevailing in recent years, we have understood that the DD/P should refrain from all direct "administration" and "support" activities and should look to other components of the Agency for such requirements.

4. Do the recommendations imply that there should be a shift in this Agency philosophy? Do they imply that perhaps the Inspector General finds that certain support activities are in reality command responsibilities which should not be placed in "outside" echelons, no matter how capable or willing? Does this indicate a belief that the Clandestine Services have special problems not amenable to routine DD/S handling? Would it imply that perhaps the pendulum had swung too far?

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5. Inasmuch as the form and nature of the present administrative support organization for and within DD/P has been the result of command decisions at Agency level, we would be hesitant in taking any steps which would appear to be contrary to the organizational policy as previously understood. Under the circumstances we would appreciate some clarification of policy, as well as specific guidance with respect to the creation of the position recommended by the Inspector General.

6. With respect to two subordinate recommendations of the Inspector General concerning the transfer of supervision of two subcomponents of the SSA-DD/S, we would prefer to withhold our comments until we have arranged with you a resolution of the primary problem set forth above.

(Signed) Richard Helms

Richard Helms
Acting Deputy Director (Plans)

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